

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for consideration given the present application. Claims 1-12 are currently pending. The title and claims 1-12 have been amended through this reply. Claims 1-12 are independent. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims in light of the amendments and remarks presented herein, and earnestly seek timely allowance of all pending claims.

Objection to the Specification

The Office Action objects to the title of the invention. The title of the invention is amended to obviate the objection. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 4 and 6-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,554,980 to Hashimoto et al. (Hashimoto); and rejects claims 2, 3 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Hashimoto in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,530,455 to Gillick et al. (Gillick). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, “the selection marker moves directly to the menu item when the number of cycles of sampling the angular velocities during which the move distance of the pointing device obtained for every sampling cycle from said angular velocity information exceeds a predetermined value continuously.” The applied references fail to teach or suggest the recited features of independent claim 1.

Hashimoto discloses a remote control system comprising horizontal and vertical angular speed detectors that detect the speed of angular motion in the horizontal and the vertical directions, respectively. See col. 14, lines 5-14 of Hashimoto. The display includes a plurality of icons that are selectable. See Fig. 5. The passage of Hashimoto relied on for disclosing the determining of the menu item discloses that the orientation of the remote control unit (1) is changed to bring the cursor (108) toward the desired icon (222) and when the cursor has reached

the desired icon, the selection switch is pressed and the icon is selected. See col. 15, lines 45-55. However, in order for the remote control unit to reach the desired icon, it appears that the remote control merely guides the cursor in a desired direction. In other words, the cursor does not move directly to the icon. Gillick fails to cure the deficiencies of Hashimoto. Thus, the applied references, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the recited features of independent claim 1.

Independent claim 2 recites, *inter alia*, “the amount of increment or decrement of the indicator for an interval of time increases while the number of cycles of sampling the angular velocities during which the move distance of the pointing device obtained for every sampling cycle from said angular velocity information exceeds a predetermined value continuously.” Independent claim 3 recites, *inter alia*, “the panning distance over an interval of time increases while the number of cycles of sampling the angular velocities during which the move distance of the pointing device obtained for every sampling cycle from said angular velocity information exceeds a predetermined value continuously.” Independent claims 4, 6 and 8-12 recite similar subject matter. Independent claim 5 recites, *inter alia*, “changing the rate of increment or decrement of the indicator for value setting in accordance with the number of cycles of sampling the angular velocities during which the move distance of the pointing device obtained for every sampling cycle from said angular velocity information exceeds a predetermined value continuously.” Independent claim 7 recites similar subject matter. The applied references fail to teach or suggest the recited features of independent claims 2-12.

As discussed above, Hashimoto discloses a remote control unit comprising horizontal and vertical angular speed detectors. See col. 14, lines 5-14. Fig. 45B discloses the distance a cursor would move when the delay time a circuit is equal to $T1 + T2$. However, the slope of the distance over time for lines M and M38 remain constant. In other words, the change in distance over time is zero and does not increase. See Fig. 45B of Hashimoto. Gillick fails to cure the deficiencies of Hashimoto. Accordingly, the applied references, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the recited features of independent claims 2-12.

For at least the reasons stated above, independent claims 1-12 are patentably distinct from the applied references.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections of the claims based on the applied references is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above remarks, it is believed that claims are allowable.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Obert H. Chu, Reg. No. 52,744, at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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